

The Bloomfield Gazette.

Office, --- At the Post Office.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1872.

BLOOMFIELD AND MONTCLAIR.

THE QUESTION OF THE HOUR.

These two old and beautiful villages, remote from each other, as it seemed in old-fashioned times, and even more remote quite detached by modern conditions and separate town interests, are hastening to embrace each other with the fervor of a second love.

And why shouldn't they? Are not their natural characteristics and their essential interests nearly identical? The impassable roads that formerly so seriously interrupted their intercourse for a great part of the year, have given place to wide, graded, well-kept, connecting streets and avenues, bearing, in some instances at least, the same name in both towns. The rapid increase of population and the liberal plans and generous improvements in both, and especially Montclair, are fast obliterating the visible lines of demarcation between them.

The similarity of interest, the mutual affinity of spirit, the oneness of aim, the certainty of unparallelled growth in the immediate future, is already uniting them in fraternal bonds that must prove indissoluble.

With this feeling, this conviction rather, it is of the gravest importance that we devise and operate such means as may most wisely and effectually mould and direct and educate the elements which are to give body and character to our future city here in its moral, social and political attributes.

What are those measures? Beyond doubt one of the most active, effective and potent of them, because constantly recurring, incessantly varied, and ever permeating the entire community with which it is in living sympathy—is the newspaper. Its opportunity for good is not easily overrated. It operates quietly, like the gentle dew, often most felt and most powerful where least seen and seldom recognized. Its secondary influences are no less effective. A word, a paragraph, an idea, settling upon a thoughtful mind, awakens a sentiment, starts a train of thought, suggests an important scheme that grows in value and importance as it develops to become itself a power of consequence and an agency to affect all the interests of society.

This leads us to the point which we have styled at the head of this article—the question of the hour.

Shall the GAZETTE, which had its birth in Bloomfield, on the 7th September last, under conditions of six months' probation, survive its probationary period. THAT is the question. This youthful candidate for life and usefulness has courageously entered the arena of conflict and vigorously struggled for recognition and position. Sometimes, when partially disheartened by the phlegmatic or indifferent manner of her Bloomfield kindred, she sighed for a genial sympathy, plumed her wings and made short visits among the enterprising and the refined of Montclair. Her visits were thought to be acceptable to those denizens of the Heights, as they were felt to be agreeable to herself and full of inspiration for her life work.

She now pleads with both Bloomfield and Montclair for the help necessary to establish herself as a permanent institution, to be conducted for the equal and impartial interests of the two towns. Some will no doubt pertinently retort, *oui bono?* (what good?) though we think this is not the age nor the country to produce skepticism as to the advantage to a community of a well-conducted local newspaper. Such a GAZETTE is a wise and necessary adjunct to all agencies for the development and upbuilding of every national, moral, social, educational and political interest of Society. It is at the same time an *organ* and an *educator*—a guide and an *exponent*—a stimulant to the right-minded and a restraint to the evil—a harmonizer and an *awakener*—a medium for suggestion, ventilation and discussion of all home questions as well as the herald to announce and publish information of our advantages and attractions—a historical journal to record weekly the most interesting and valuable incidents and events pertaining to the families and the community in a form to be kept and handed down to posterity. We can only suggest, without stopping to expand and illustrate these considerations.

If such be the value and importance of a good local newspaper—should not every citizen, every householder, every resident feel that he could well afford to contribute to its establishment and support. The more intelligent and wealthy, those owning large property, or having large business interests in the community can, of course, be more liberal than others; but all need to feel an interest and lend a helping hand.

The present editors, it is well known, assumed the responsibilities and labors of getting up and carrying the paper for six months, supported by the pecuniary contributions of about \$500 from their fellow-citizens to supplement the short-comings of regular income from subscription list and advertising bills. They cheerfully consecrated their time and abilities to the good cause, and had no intention of devoting themselves beyond the fixed period, and they most sincerely say now that they do not wish or intend to do so. Not that the vocation is ungenial, for it is not—but they feel that they cannot afford to give their valuable time, and carry onerous burdens with fearful moral and social responsibilities for naught. But this they will do—if the people will promptly and

liberally respond to this call, we, the editors, will promise to effect, as best we may, the transfer of it into good hands. We will also contribute ourselves as liberally as we ask others to do; and, in addition, we will freely support the interest and usefulness of the paper with our pens. If others will co-operate as heartily and as unselfishly, we shall establish the BLOOMFIELD AND MONTCLAIR GAZETTE a creditable and successful weekly in February.

A large number of this issue will be circulated and be followed shortly by personal applications, with subscription lists, soliciting the names of those who will subscribe for the GAZETTE for one year from 1st February next, at \$2 per annum, in advance.

It must be understood that it will be necessary to find, in Bloomfield and Montclair, 150 at least, who will subscribe for five copies each.

The same canvassers will call on the business men in each place to solicit their respective pledges to advertise in the GAZETTE, on the established terms of the paper, and the amounts for which they will be committed, payable monthly. It being understood that we need at least 10 who will advertise to the amount of \$100 each during the year, and 20 who will advertise to the amount of \$50 each for the year, and 40 more who will advertise to the amount of \$25 each for the year.

As this work will be laborious and take much time, may we not ask that the people will consider the subject at once, and be ready to respond generously to the application, detaining the canvassers as short a time as possible. As soon as completed, we will announce the results in a future issue of the paper, and if the canvass is successful we will formally record our pledges and promise of devotion, and labor for the best and largest interests for these beloved villages.

STATES RIGHTS.

It has become customary of late, in some quarters where we would least expect it, to speak of the war waged in defence of our union, as if it needed an apology. While it is right and desirable that past hate should be forgotten, and that we should in very truth have peace, yet this is not to be obtained by acknowledging that "one party had as much right on its side as the other."

Our country has escaped a great peril; we and our children should look the matter steadily in the face, thank God for our salvation, and guard carefully against a similar danger in the future. Our Ship of State struck on dangerous rocks, from which she was extricated only after years of toil, expense, suffering, and blood; more than one generation will pass before its sorrows will be forgotten. It is, then, our duty to point out those rocks, to set a beacon upon them, and warn mariners of their dangerous character.

Slavery was not the only or chief cause of the Rebellion. Though an unutterable wrong, a gigantic curse, it bred a monster more horrid than itself, and called its offspring *State Rights*, meaning *State Sovereignty*. Were it now dead with no hope of resurrection, we would not recall its name and nature; but it may rise again, and the coming generation should be taught to regard its very name with horror.

The erroneous doctrine, briefly stated is this: "The Government of the United States consists of powers delegated to it by the separate States; each State, or any number of States may at any time withdraw from the confederation, and set up a separate government for itself." There is no need here to argue that question; it was debated for years in the National Congress; many of the State Legislatures disapproved it; the Press was never weary of it; even the Pulpit felt called upon to utter its voice on the momentous question. Finally it was transferred to the battle field; and after the bloodiest war of modern times, it was settled that the Union should be preserved. To bring the subject again before the nation; to express any doubt as to the justice of the result, is to excite and keep alive feeling that may bring forth the same bitter fruit as before.

What the logical result of such teachings will be, if fully carried out, may be illustrated by the history of those nations where civil war brought disunion and all its dreadful results. Five centuries before Christ, Greece had attained its highest intellectual development. Its philosophy, literature and art have never been surpassed by uninspired men. In those glorious days, Athens had reached an unrivalled position among the nations of the world. Pericles, the prince of statesmen, wisely foresaw that to secure what Greece had, after so many ages, accomplished, a union of all the States must be formed; that each must give up some of its powers, to form one strong nation, where each part would be stronger for its connection with the rest. This only could she continue steadily to develop the sciences and arts to perfection, assure her political strength, and successfully defy foreign attack. But the aristocratic States feared liberty; while Athens and her sister republics had been growing stronger, Sparta and the other oligarchies had looked on in hate. They resisted all efforts to form a union, and finally resolved to crush its advocates. After a contest of thirty years, Athens fell, liberty and union perished with her; but her victors buried themselves in the ruin they had wrought. Philip of Macedonia, seizing the opportune moment, swooped down from the North, and took what civil war had left. To him succeeded Rome; and Greece, since then, has existed only in history or in song. She was destroyed by the accursed doctrine of "State Sovereignty."

Such would have been our condition had the late Rebellion succeeded. Thank God, the danger has been averted, though at a fearful expense. Let us impress firmly upon the minds of our children the inestimable value of the Union; let them learn to esteem it higher than life itself.

We close this article with a quotation from Longfellow's "Building of the Ship."

Then, too, sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O Union strong and great!
HUMANITY, with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what Master laid thy keel,
What Workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvils rang, what hammers beat,
In what a forge, and what a heat,
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!

Fear not that sudden shock and shock;
'Tis of the wave and not the rock;
Tis but the flapping of the sail,
And not a rent made by the gale!
In spite of wreck and tempest's roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!
Our hearts, our hopes are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee,—are all with thee!

PERAMBULATIONS ABOUT BLOOMFIELD.—No. II.

NAMES OF STREETS.

In an early number of the GAZETTE, we inquired why our streets were not named and urged the importance of it being done. Our brief article seems to have attracted little attention.

As we deem it of material consequence we recur to it again. Going North from the Morris and Essex Depot, the first crossing is at Washington Avenue, which seems willing to wait its time, for we find it conspicuously posted on each of the opposite corners. The next crossing traverses us by the other side of Bloomfield Avenue, which, however, has no name to designate its legitimacy. Perhaps our Town Committee will say everybody knows the name of that street. With all respect to those Sapiens Fathers, our conviction is that many residents of Bloomfield are at this time ignorant of the proper name of that Avenue; and of course the strangers visiting our town cannot know it unless we ascribe to them an intuition equal to that of the honorable gentlemen composing the town board aforesaid.

Following the main street North, which, by the way, is itself wholly destitute of any marks of identification, we reach a corner where we look in vain for the Christian name of the transverse street; nevertheless, we understand it has a good name promised, and when the time arrives for it to be christened, it is presumed it will be "LIBERTY." This name forthwith is quite pertinent, since all the vulgar leaders of our village let at liberty to congregate near this corner and exercise the villain's liberty of insulting ladies by the vociferous and matted filth ejected from their nascent mouths!

The next crossing is at a lane by the Methodist Church, forming a connection with some other unknown or unnamed street parallel with and west of Broad Avenue. This connective street has no name in appearance or in fact, as far as we know.

The same may be said of the next parallel street, which is a fine avenue and has a creditable sidewalk its whole length. It is a shame that our Town Committee judge it not to have arrived at the dignity of a name yet! May we suggest the appropriate name of "DAVID" street? On the opposite side of the green we already have "BRANCH" street and we cordially approve of the name. But what of the nameless street lying midway between Beach and Liberty street? Shall we call it "SEYMOUR" street, or "RANDALL" street, or "SHELDON" street? And the longitudinal street running from Liberty to Beach why not call it "WARD" street?

On this "WARD" street, if it be so approved, Mr. Baxter has just completed a very fine residence for himself, and on "SEYMOUR" street, if that be accepted, Mr. Hague has also erected a fine house into which he has recently removed.

The next corner brings us to Belleville Avenue, one of the most quiet and pleasant streets in town, handsomely built up and improved by numbers of our prominent citizens, without a sign to inform the inquisitive stranger of his whereabouts.

The next, which is the first lateral street south of the Mallard R. R. we were told is called New street, as the first north of that Road is sometimes called Canal street, neither of which has any special significance; both are waiting we presume (as an infant is called baby for a time) till suitable names shall be decided on. We beg to suggest "BUTLER" street for the former and "ACON" street for the latter, the significance of which will be easily recognized.

We next reach Benson Avenue, a fine street running through to Montclair, and deserving, as do all the others, indeed, to be legitimized by immediate christening. Beyond those above named we find, as we go on, a few other streets whose names we could not learn.

We shall therefore postpone the further consideration of the subject after again requesting the people to take this matter in hand. It would be a small thing for the residents on any street to confer together and, having adopted a name, which should be approved by the Town Committee, to designate one of their number to have the signs painted and put up at all the corners. But in considering the names, we take the liberty to suggest that when the special significance of one name rather than another is indicated by peculiar relations of things, or by personal associations, or by historical facts, it would seem to be a

breach of trust not to perpetuate that significance by stamping the name upon it by authority. What, for instance, could be more fitting than that a street running alongside of the Canal should be called Canal Street? or one running beside the Rail Road should be known as Rail Road Avenue? Why not also perpetuate the names of our older inhabitants by attaching these venerated names to our streets, parks, banks, etc. Why is our Davis Street? our Dodd Street? our Baldwin Street? our Morris Street? our Ward Street? our Carson street? &c.

West of Broad Avenue, on the heights, we noticed several new homes going up, though we did not learn the names of the owners. When Ridgewood Avenue is widened and extended, as it will be next year, that elevated ridge will furnish many attractive sites for residences, commanding magnificent views South and East.

Bloomfield, North End, called "Morris Neighborhood," possessing a splendid water power, derived from the Morris Canal, which also furnishes ready and cheap transportation, is destined to become an important manufacturing place probably.

At present the Silver Springs paper mill carries on that branch of manufacture extensively; and the Potters have one of the best Flouring Mills in this part of the State.

The well supplied store of Mr. Warren S. Baldwin, in this neighborhood, includes dry goods, groceries, shoes, hardware, coal, wood, etc., to supply the wants of its large and increasing population. There is a fine brick school-house also, and a pleasant Mission Chapel. With these elements of a complete and prosperous community, we think the residents of the neighborhood may confidently look forward to a future full of promise. The roads will demand their earliest and most generous attention, in which we feel confident the Town Committee will extend their official sanction and whatever legal aid belongs to them to render.

We cannot end this walk and talk without raising the question about the undefined and doubtful name of our principal main street. "The Paterson Road," "Paterson Turnpike," "Main Street," "Broad Avenue," "Broad Street," have severally been applied to it so frequently that it is doubtful if it would respond to either name by opening its eyes of a morning, though it should be sounded long and loud by the combined church bells of the village, or even by the "morning gong" we recently invoked. We are quite sure, of a dozen inhabitants, taken at random, not half the number would concur in asserting its known and admitted name.

Therefore we feel emboldened to propose an entirely new, or at least, as far as we know, unmentioned name for that most beautiful thoroughfare in our village; a name no less appropriate than pleasing. What say you, fellow-citizens, and ladies in particular, shall it be—CENTRAL AVENUE?

Our next walk will probably be through some part of Montclair.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WEDDINGS.—Marrying seems to be the order of the day. The interesting scene in the Presbyterian church of Bloomfield, on the 4th inst.—and in the Montclair Presbyterian church, on the 10th inst.—will be long and pleasantly remembered.

The ceremony on the former occasion celebrated the marriage of Mr. W. A. Perry, of Newark, to the beautiful Miss Mary Hayes, daughter of our fellow-townsmen, Mr. Thomas E. Hayes. The capacity of our largest church was taxed to its utmost on this memorable occasion. Most sincerely do we tender our editorial congratulations and personal good wishes to the bride and groom.

The ceremony on Tuesday, in Montclair, and the subsequent Reception at the residence of the bride's parents, constituted a unique and *recherché* affair, even in that live and stirring community. Mr. Duncanson is a lawyer of St. Louis, belonging to the highly respected and well-known family of that name in Newark. We are glad he had to return to New Jersey for his heart and life companion. The marriage form was that of the Episcopal Church. The groomsmen were Mr. Hannah, of St. Louis, and Messrs. Vanderpool and Tripp, of Newark. The bridesmaids were Miss Sarah Nason, Miss Gertrude Pratt, Miss Annie Graham. The courteous ushers were Messrs. W. R. Gould, Wood, Henning, Dr. Innes, and H. A. Chittenden, Jr. Among the guests might have been seen a large representation of the principal families of Newark, as well as Montclair. The Rev. Dr. Demarest of Peckskill, with his new bride; with many from Brooklyn; Dr. Talcott, of Gifford, Conn.; a member from St. Louis; Mrs. W. L. Dana and Miss Badger, from Milwaukee.

Mr. C. B. Chittenden had provided for a large party of the young folks to follow the departure of the bridal pair. As they kept too late hours for us, we cannot give any further particulars. May kind Heaven smile propitiously on them all.

INTERLUDE IN DODD TOWN.—What is the matter with the East Orange Town Committee? An obstruction has for several months been permitted to remain on the sidewalk near Mr. Calvin Dodd's to the serious discomfort of pedestrians in good weather, and the day time, in wet weather, and at night it is dangerous. We heard a rumor that a protest, signed by the neighbors, had been presented to the Town Committee. This we are inclined to doubt; for they certainly would not let

the walk remain in its present condition, if they were aware of it.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS.—CLEBOTMEN.—In an imaginary colloquy between the Pew and the Pulpit, which we find in a religious weekly, the Rev. Mr. Talmage of Brooklyn thus hits off a serious defect in the pulpit habits of many of our clergymen. Some of our Bloomfield pastors may profit by the hint, if they will. We quote only one passage.

"The Pew was speaking, and said to the Pulpit, in anything but a reverential tone: 'Why don't you speak out on other days as well as you do to-day? The fact is, I never knew a Pulpit that could not be heard when it was thoroughly mad. But when you give out the hymn on Sabbaths, I cannot tell whether it is the seventh or the hundredth. When you read the chapter, you are half through with it before I know whether it is Exodus or Deuteronomy. Why do you begin your sermon in so low a key? If the introduction is not worth hearing, it is not worth delivering. Are you explaining the text? If so, the Lord's meaning is as important as anything you will have in your sermon. Throw back your shoulders, open your mouth! Make your voice strike against the opposite wall. Pray not only for a clean heart, but for stout lungs. I have nearly worn out my eyes trying to catch your utterances. When a captain on a battle-field gives an order, the company all hear; and if you want to be an officer in the Lord's army, do not mumble your words. The eloquence of Christ's Sermon is described when we are told He opened His mouth and taught them—that is, spoke distinctly, as those cannot do who keep their lips half closed. Do you think it a sign of modesty to speak so low? I think the most presuming thing on earth for a Pulpit to do is to demand that an audience sit quiet when they cannot hear, simply because the handsomest minister I ever saw is not worth looking at for an hour and a half at a stretch. The truth is, that I have often been so provoked with your inarticulate speech that I would have got up and left the church, had it not been for attracting special attention to myself.'"

BLOOMFIELD LOCAL.

A neighborhood prayer-meeting is held every Friday evening, at 7 1/2, in Mr. Augustus Morris' spacious parlors, for the convenience of that neighborhood.

A Mission prayer-meeting every Wednesday evening, under the auspices of the several churches, in Archdeacon's Hall. All are cordially welcomed.

The body of Bernard Reynolds, an employee of C. W. Powers of this place, was recently found in the canal, where it had been, probably, for several days. An inquest satisfied the coroner that it was the result of suicide, or what is about the same thing, of drunkenness.

Our Bloomfielders, so justly proud of their native musical talent, will have an opportunity to-night (Friday) of enjoying an excellent exhibition of it. Mr. Jay L. Adams has generously offered to open his parlors to a Concert in behalf of the Christmas Festival of the Berkeley Sunday School.

The Yale Glee Club formed the third of the Euclean Entertainment, on Wednesday evening, their Concert included a varied and well-selected programme, which furnished a rich treat to a large and appreciative audience. A small collection of irrepressible youngsters in the gallery rather marred the comfort of the audience.

The Rev. Charles E. Knox, one of the esteemed pastors of Bloomfield, delivered, on Sunday evening last, a very superior lecture on the *Elements of Nature*, as proving the existence and government of an all-wise, all-powerful and all-beneficent God. The aggregation of facts and illustrations indicated extensive research on the part of the learned lecturer, which was hardly excelled by his eloquence and impressive manner in delivery.

BURGLARY.—On Tuesday night, the residences of Rev. E. Seymour, Hon. J. F. Sanxay and Mr. L. P. Smith were entered by persons intent on robbery, but with little or no success. In one case a wretched member of the family, in another a vociferous little terror, disturbed their equanimity and obstructed their progress, and in all a wholesome dread of our Citizens Protective Association, of which the above gentlemen are members, prevented the consummation of their nefarious designs.

Since our last issue we have had the pleasure of listening to the interesting lecture of Dr. Robinson on "Paris before Sedan." His style is agreeable, his utterance clear and articulate, his facts, though sometimes marvellous, are entirely reliable beyond doubt. This was the first of the Euclean Association Entertainments, and gave unbounded satisfaction to a large and respectable audience.

The second of the Euclean Course was by Prof. Murdoch, and consisted of varied selection of Readings. His conception and style we think especially adapted to the dramatic. In some respects his gesticulations and intonations were too excited and overstrained. He lacks qualifications for the gentler and tenderer sentiments. But his selections from Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice was admirably rendered.

Our readers are interested to know what is going on in our village in the way of preserving peace and order and bringing bad men to justice. Without promising to publish regularly a list of offenders, we present herewith a list of arrests recently made by our watchful and efficient officer Hoff.

Mrs. Fred. Gruber, for assault, shoe

maker's wife, assaulted Mrs. Keller, barber's wife. Brought before Squire Hall and held to bail for good behaviour.

Thos. Kinsmonn, for assault and battery on Thos. Jones. Held to bail for appearance in Court.

John Mulharen for same offence. Same bail. \$100.

Edward Moran for stealing whisky from Charles McCracken.

James M. Post, arrested for drinking whiskey, known to be stolen, advising parties to steal it, and promising that he would sell it for them at 35 cents a bottle. Bailed for appearance in court.

John Pa Eckert, arrested for drunkenness Dec. 7. Committed for four days.

Austin Bonnell, drunk and disorderly. Fined \$4.

John McDavitt for assault on Fred. Fullman. Bailed for appearance for hearing.

Leander Williams, assault on Fred. Fullman. Bail for hearing.

Peter Fullman, for vagrancy, leaving home, running faster in debt. In jail.

Daniel H. Peil (last seen Dec. 4) has disappeared from Bloomfield, leaving his creditors in the lurch.

Sheriff has seized goods of C. McCracken for debt, to be sold next Friday. It is to be hoped that this will be the end of that misdoer.

MESSRS. EDITORS: You say in your last number that "the officer who was charged with the service" of the warrants in the case of Mrs. Jane Parsons, "as well as the Squire who accepted of uncertain bail, committed irregularities which are the occasion of serious complaint." It is well known that I am that officer, and I wish to explain my part in the business.

After the warrant for Mrs. Parsons' arrest was put into my hands, Mr. Parsons came to my house and told me that he wanted to go bail for her, I told him that she must be present. He said he knew better; so we went down to Squire Hall's to ask him. The Squire said that bail could be accepted without her presence, and did accept it. So I returned the papers to Squire Day. Afterwards being sure that the proceeding was wrong, I walked up to Squire Day's at night, got the warrants, and stopped at Mr. Parsons' house. He brought me down with Mrs. Parsons to Squire Hall's, when bail was properly given.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES B. HOFF.

NEW AND VALUABLE.

MESSRS. EDITORS: I saw your advertisement of the Warren Cooke in your paper, and in consequence we have one.

But I have another article which, in its place, is quite as great an invention, and a greater source of economy. I speak of the Patent Wire Cloth Line as agent of the son of one of our townsmen.

I am informed a quantity has been left at Mr. Wilde's store to supply those upon whom the agent may not call in person.

There is now no more need for annoyance with the old pump lines, or reminding the servant to take them in, for, thanks to the "Hudson R. Wire Co.," we have an article that cannot be injured by exposure to weather, warranted not to rust or injure the clothes.

We have been looking for the establishment of a public laundry in our place. While waiting for its coming we welcome any invention that will alleviate the labor of home washing. Anticipating comfort and profit from our recent investment, we recommend others to try it.

Yours truly,

HOOSEKEEPER.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

MESSRS. EDITORS: I mean for the disgraceful and dangerous condition of the crossing between the stores of Messrs. Gardiner and Wilde at Bloomfield Centre, which, I will venture to say, is more used than any in the village.

As we all know, the lowering of the grade of the turnpike left miniature precipices on either side which was first partially remedied on Mr. Gardiner's side and left in its present break-neck condition, with a filthy slough in wet weather between the steps and the Telford. The improved pavement on the other side across the mud is much better, and the steps broad and pretty regular, still, on a dark night, and especially when slippery, it is very dangerous to those of us who are aware of all the bearings, but what must it be to strangers? The question of responsibility is one which may be tested before the Winter is over. It seems to me that the Town, having once established a grade for sidewalks and taxed property-owners for laying them down, becomes responsible for any subsequent alteration of the grade. Let us hope, in any case, that something will be done at once to render the crossing safe and creditable, and not wait till a serious accident occurs, with a possibly heavy bill of damages for the town to pay.

CALDWELL ITEMS.

The Presbyterian Church in Caldwell was burnt to the ground two weeks since. It was 80 years old. It owned a large and valuable property, and will soon erect another in its place more in accordance with modern ideas and convenience.

ROBERT IN CALDWELL.—One day last week a stranger entered the house of Mr. Charles Mann in Caldwell, and forced Mrs. Mann, who is 70 years old, to give him some valuable papers and money. He afterwards tied her hands behind her to the bedstead, and left. A hard-looking customer was arrested in Morris County on

suspicion; but on being brought before Mrs. Mann, was not recognized as the culprit.

CALDWELL "REFORMER."—We have received the *Caldwell Reformer* of Nov. 30th, being the eighth number, and the first we have seen since the election.

We heartily endorse the Editor's call for a new school-house, and are glad to learn from private sources that there is a prospect of the old one coming down soon, and one worthy of the town being erected in its place.

As a matter of taste, we regret to see the correspondence between Mr. Berry and the Editor published.

Nor can we harmonize the statement that "the Reformer is independent in politics," with its political editorials and selections.

Still the paper is evidently conducted with ability, and we wish it the greatest success in giving its aid to develop what may be for the best interests of our neighbors over the hill.

CITIZEN'S PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

The Citizen's Protective Association of Bloomfield held its annual meeting on Saturday evening, 7th inst., in the Lecture Room of the First Presbyterian Church.

The reports of the last year were read, and the former officers re-elected.

The Society is in a prosperous condition, having a membership of one hundred and twenty-six, and a balance in the treasury of three hundred and fifty dollars.

Much interest was manifested in the objects of the Society by those present, the following named gentlemen taking part in the discussions: Dr. E. MacFarlan, A. T. Morris, U. J. Turner, R. Pele, W. S. Baldwin, and J. K. Oakes.

The necessity of having a proper house of detention was urged, a resolution adopted, asking the Town Committee to provide a "Lock-up" for arrested persons, as by law they are authorized to do.

The Bloomfield Savings Bank was designated as the depository of the funds of the Association.

The officers were directed to publish the names of the members of the Society for the ensuing year in the BLOOMFIELD GAZETTE.

All members of last year may continue their connection, by paying into the hands of the Treasurer the annual fee of one dollar within one month after the annual meeting.

All persons desiring to become members, will apply to either

J. F. JONES, Treasurer.

C. H. NASH, Secretary.

MONTCLAIR LOCAL.

MONTCLAIR, Dec. 7, 1872.

MESSRS. EDITORS: In your November issue I saw an interesting statement of the improvements going on in Montclair. Our town is soon to have a splendid reservoir about 300 yards west of Mr. Nason's land. On the top of the mountain is a natural basin with two streams of water running through it. The basin will contain water sufficient to supply Montclair and Bloomfield.

NEW CONTRASTOR.

The new Baptist bell in Bloomfield is distinctly heard all through Montclair.

The Hillsdale had its first Social on the 6th. It is said about thirty were present.

The last Church Social of the Episcopal church, held at Mr. E. P. Clark's, was a decided success, as they always are.

At Taylor Bros. & Co.'s Steam Saw Mill, last week, a man in their employ was kicked by a horse and died in a few hours.

There is a "Literary" among the young people of the Congregational church that promises to take the lead in such matters.